



FEB 17 2004

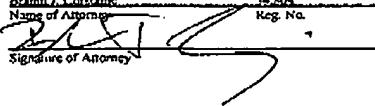
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PATENT
7961M

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Barbara J. Cormack
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Signature of Attorney

14-204

Reg. No.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jiping WANG et al : Paper No.:

Serial No.: 09/784,541 : Group Art Unit: 1751

Filing Date: February 15, 2001 : Examiner: C. Boyer

For: **Method for the Use of Hydrophobic Bleaching Systems in Textile Preparation**

COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S STATEMENT
OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

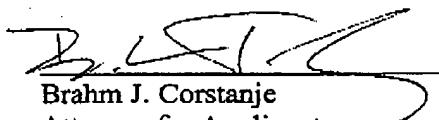
The Notices of Allowance and Allowability dated January 7, 2004 included an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance. The Examiner's Statement indicates that Applicants have claimed a process for the preparation of a non-finished textile component comprising saturating the textile with a bleach solution comprising hydrogen peroxide and a bleaching agent wherein the resultant textile has a whiteness value of 70 or fiber degradation increase of less than 25%.

The Examiner's statement is correct with respect to claim 1; however, independent claims 18 and 31 recite additional processes. That is, claim 18 recites a method for the batch preparation of a woven textile fabric comprising the steps of: a) providing an incoming non-finished woven fabric; and b) passing said fabric to an aqueous bleaching solution, said bleaching solution comprising a mixture of hydrogen peroxide and a hydrophobic bleach

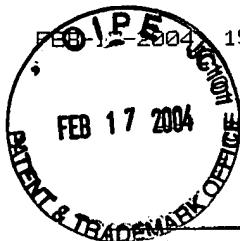
activator or a pre-formed hydrophobic activator, heating said bleaching solution to a temperature of from about 20 to about 90 °C and allowing said bleaching solution to contact said fabric for a period of time of from about 15 to about 180 minutes. Claim 31 recites a method for improving the wettability loss of textile components comprising the steps of: a) providing an incoming non-finished woven fabric; and b) passing said fabric to an aqueous bleaching solution, said bleaching solution comprising a mixture of hydrogen peroxide and a hydrophobic bleach activator or a pre-formed hydrophobic activator, heating said bleaching solution to a temperature of from about 20 to about 90 °C and allowing said bleaching solution to contact said fabric for a period of time of from about 15 to about 180 minutes. Nonetheless, the processes of claims 18 and 31 are also patentably distinguishable from the teachings of the cited prior art.

These comments are submitted to clarify the record. Entry is therefore believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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FROM: Brahm J. Corstanje, Esq.

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Listed below are the item(s) being submitted with this Certificate of Transmission:**

1) Comments on Examiner's Statement of Reasons For Allowance

Inventor(s): Wang et al.

S.N.: 09/784,541

Filed: February 15, 2001

Case: 7961M

Number of Pages Including this Page: 3

Comments:

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